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Signal Office,

War Department,

Washington City, May 21st, 1885

Prof. Spencer F. Baird,

Smithsonian Institution,

Dear Sir;

It gives me great pleasure to send you, by direction of the Chief Signal Officer of the Army, forty nine specimens of the plants obtained by the Lady Franklin Bay Expedition.

Most of these plants were gathered by me, but the credit of their careful pressing belongs to the late Sergeant Joseph Elison, 10th Infantry. These specimens are but fair examples of the wonderful vegetation that exists in Grinnell Land, within less than eight degrees of the geographical pole, and I am confident they will be of interest to the specialists of your valued institution.

Owing to their not having been properly identified, I am unable to send you certain specimens, some ten or twelve in number; which will follow later, together with the official names of all plants obtained by the expedition.

The numbers which are attached to these specimens refer only to the official numbers in my book of plants.

In case you should desire any further specimens, personal-

ly or for the Institution, it would give me great pleasure to furnish them as far as may be practicable, from my private collection.

I am, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

A.W.Greely,

1st., Lt. 5th, Cav., A.S.O. and Ass't.

(49 Encls.)